



protect your animals and produce from pests and disease

Guidelines for visits to farms or animal facilities during an emergency disease outbreak

People, vehicles, equipment and clothing can transport infectious animal diseases. Anyone who has contact with infected animals or their environment can transfer infection.

These guidelines for visits (e.g. visits by utility providers, service providers, contractors, or community support providers) to farms or animal facilities help minimise the risk of spreading infectious diseases.

Animal facilities include places such as saleyards, stables, kennels, abattoirs and catteries.

Visitors should follow all guidelines to help stop the spread of disease.

Purpose To provide advice to people required to make visits to a farm or animal facility.

Is your visit necessary?

- Check if the visit is necessary. Only essential vehicles/visitors should enter farms or animal facilities.
- Use other methods of communication with property owners, for example, phoning for meter readings.

Before you enter a property

- Contact the property owner.
- Plan your vehicle and personal decontamination. If the property owner advises that suitable disinfection equipment is not present on the property, bring disinfectant, water, bucket, towel and scrubbing brush. Also, bring a change of clothes and a sealable laundry bag.

When you enter a property

- Where possible, leave your vehicle at the front gate or away from animals.
- Drive or walk on driveways or hard surfaces where possible.
- Go directly in and out of the property.

- Do not physically go near any animals. Keep away from animal products such as manure, urine, feathers or hair, equipment and bedding.

Procedures to follow during visits

- Do not come into direct contact with animals, their products, equipment or housing.
- No special procedures are required for visitors who only use sealed paths or roads and have no contact with animals or people in direct contact with animals.
- More decontamination is required if a visit involves direct or close contact with animals or people with close contact, or driving across roads or paddocks.

Leaving a property

- If a vehicle enters a property, cleaning is required if it gets mud or manure over its surface.
- If you come into direct contact with an animal, full personal decontamination (below) is required. You should avoid contact with other animals for 24 hours.

Personal decontamination

- After coming into direct contact with an animal, wash all exposed skin with soap and water, and disinfect footwear. Change clothes, including hat and footwear before handling healthy animals. Launder clothes in hot water and laundry detergent.
- Even if you haven't come into direct contact with animals, wash your hands with soap and water, and clean and disinfect footwear. A change of clothes is not required if you did not come in contact with animals.

Decontaminating vehicles

- Clean and wash vehicles thoroughly with water to remove all matter. Wash wheels and wheel arches (and undercarriage) thoroughly with detergent and water.
- Drivers should ensure that they clean inside their cabin (including seat, steering wheel, door and door handle) and change their clothes and shoes. Place the dirty clothes and shoes in a plastic bag and perform personal decontamination of these items.